

MILNROW URBAN DISTRICT COUNCILANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
FOR THE YEAR 1949TO THE HEALTH COMMITTEE OF THE URBAN DISTRICT OF MILNROW

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have to honour of presenting my twenty-first Annual Report of the Health of the Urban District of Milnrow, and shall commence by placing before you the General Statistics from which this report is formed.

Population

The estimated population of 1949 is 8514 with an acreage of 5,194 acres. The census of 1931 gave the number of inhabited houses to be 2,574, and the number of families or separate occupiers 2,575. The census of 1931 gave the total population as 8,623.

The rateable value of the district is £50,760 and the sum represented by the Penny Rate is £211.

The population is industrial and is occupied mainly with cotton spinning, the engineering trade and the wool trade, none of which has any peculiar influence on the public health.

VITAL STATISTICS

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Births in 1949	146	76	70
Deaths in 1949	128	59	69
Deaths in infants under one year	6	2	4
Still Births	11	1	-

Rates per 1,000 of population

	Birth Rate	Crude Death Rate	Phthisis Death Rate	Cancer Death Rate.	Rates of Deaths under 1 year to 1000 Births	Maternal Mortality Rate per 1000 Live and Still Births
1949	17.1	15.0	0.35	2.00	41	6.80
1948	17.2	13.8	Nil	1.54	62	6.66
Mean of (Five Years) (1944-1948)	17.9	13.5	0.22	2.24	43	2.71
Increase or decrease in 1949 on 5 years average 1944-48	-0.8	+1.5	+0.13	-0.24	-2	+4.09
Previous year difference	-0.1	+1.2	+0.35	+0.46	-21	+0.14

101

102

103

104

105

106

107

108

109

110

VITAL STATISTICS OF WHOLE OF DISTRICT  
DURING 1949 AND PREVIOUS YEARS

Year	Population estimated to middle of each year	Births		Deaths		Infantile Deaths under 1 year		Maternal Mortality	
		No.	Rate.	No.	Rate		Rate	Deaths	Rate
1932	8645	97	11.3	113	15.5	6	61	Nil	
1933	8460	117	13.8	133	15.7	7	59	Nil	
1934	8446	113	13.3	119	14.1	5	44	Nil	
1935	8406	98	11.6	121	14.3	8	81	1	9.7
1936	8287	95	11.4	110	13.2	2	21	1	10.2
1937	8058	96	11.9	117	14.5	4	41	Nil	
1938	8033	98	12.1	110	13.6	6	61	Nil	
1939	8375	105	12.5	126	15.1	5	47	2	18.
1940	8072	118	14.6	116	14.3	3	25	1	8.06
1941	7895	117	14.8	115	14.5	5	42	Nil	
1942	7663	110	14.3	90	11.7	6	54	Nil	
1943	7520	116.	15.4	108	14.3	9	77	Nil	
1944	7661	129	16.8	97	12.6	2	15.5	1	7.75
1945	7671	131	17.0	111	14.4	9	68	Nil	
1946	8134	147	18.0	105	12.9	6	40	Nil	
1947	8290	166	20.0	112	13.5	5	50	Nil	
1948	8418	145	17.2	117	13.2	9	62	1	6.66
1949	8514	146	17.1	128	14.3	6	43	1	6.80

Birth Rate

In 1949 the Live Births belonging to this District were 76 males and 70 females.

The Birth Rate in 1949 was	17.1
The Birth Rate in 1948 was	17.2
The decrease in 1949 on the previous year was	0.1
The Brith Rate for England and Wales in 1949 was	16.7

Death Rate

In 1949 the deaths belonging to this District were 59 males and 69 females.

The death rate for 1949 was	15.0
The death rate for 1948 was	13.8
The increase in 1949 on the previous year was	1.5
The death rate for England and Wales in 1949 was	11.7

In 1949 the registered births exceeded the deaths by	18
In 1948 the registered births exceeded the deaths by	28

During the year 42 people belonging to the District died outside it

Birch Hill Hospital	33
Rochdale Infirmary	6
Rochdale	1
Whittingham	1
Christie Hospital	1
	<u>42</u>

[illegible]
$$\frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \frac{1}{1 - \epsilon \cos \theta} d\theta = \frac{1}{1 - \epsilon^2} \quad \text{for } |\epsilon| < 1$$



The causes of death were

Tuberculosis of respiratory system	3
Ac. inf. encop.	1
Influenza	1
Cancer of Stomach and duodenum	4
Cancer of Breast	3
Cancer of all other sites	10
Intracranial vascular lesions	18
Heart diseases	37
Other diseases of circulatory system	13
Bronchitis	14
Pneumonia	3
Other respiratory diseases	2
Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	2
Diarrhea under 2 years	1
Nephritis	2
Other maternal causes	1
Premature Birth	1
Congenital malformation and birth injury	4
Other violent causes	5
All other causes	3
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	128

## Infantile Mortality

During 1949 there were 6 deaths of infants under one year the causes of death being :-

Gastro Enteritis	1
Cerebral haemorrhage	2
Prematurity	1
Congenital Pulmonary Stenosis	1
Atelactasis	1

The Infantile Mortality Rate in 1949 was	41
The Infantile Mortality Rate in 1948 was	62
The decrease in 1949 on the previous year was	21
The Maternal Mortality during 1949 was	6.80
The Maternal Mortality during 1948 was	6.66
The Infantile Mortality Rate for England and Wales was	32

Causes of Infectious Diseases notified  
during the year 1949

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There were 167 cases of Infectious Diseases.

The Death rate for Pulmonary T.B. in 1949 was	0.35
The Death rate for Pulmonary T.B. in 1948 was	Nil
The death rate for Cancer in 1949 was	2.00
The death rate for Cancer in 1948 was	1.54

Under the National Health Service Act the county is divided into 17 administrative divisions.

Milnrow is in Number 13 district which is composed of Bacup, Haywood, Littleborough, Milnrow, Wardle and Whitworth.

#### Maternity and Child Welfare

Clinic. There is a Maternity and Child Welfare clinic

(Consultation) open every Thursday, 2-0 to 4-0 p.m.  
at 1 Wesley Street, Milnrow.

A clinic and Treatment centre is also held there.

Ante Natal Cases attend clinic in Rochdale by arrangements  
or 1 Wesley Street when the clinic is open every  
Wednesday afternoon.

Midwifery Domiciliary midwifery is carried out by midwives  
under the control of the Lancashire County Council.

Home Helps There are two home helps in the district.

Cleansing Centre Cases requiring treatment are treated at  
the Cleansing Centre in Rochdale.

Immunisation Clinics are held monthly at the Maternity and  
Child Welfare Centre on the first Wednesday in  
every month.

Ambulance Facilities The Ambulance service is now administered  
by the Lancashire County Council and the Ambulance  
Station is at Littleborough.

#### Infectious Diseases

The hospital functions are now administered by the  
Regional Hospital Board.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,  
Yours obediently,

O.R.I.LOVE, M.D., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health.





MILNROW URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Council Offices,

MILNROW.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR FOR THE YEAR 1949

To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee of  
The Urban District Council.

Lady and Gentlemen,

I have much pleasure in submitting to you my fifth  
Annual Report of the sanitary conditions of the district.

The greatest problem is still housing accommodation.

The number of applicants for Council houses at the  
end of the year was 543, at the end of 1948 the number  
was 549.

During the year there were 70 families rehoused in new  
houses and 8 families rehoused in other council houses.

No. of houses	Adults		Children		Total	
	M.	F.	under 10 years		M.	F.
78	95	96	44	37	139	133

In addition to the above 6 families exchanged from  
non-Council to Council houses. The total number of  
people involved was 22.

The total number of families rehoused during the  
year was 84 totalling 294 people.

From the foregoing it will be seen that although  
84 families involving 294 people have been rehoused the  
number of applicants for Council houses has only been  
reduced by 6.

The position of the housing programme at the end of  
the year was :-

SCHEME NO. 1.

This contract was for the erection of 116 houses.

At the commencement of the year 46 houses had been  
tenanted. During the year the remaining 70 houses have  
been completed and tenanted.

SCHEME NO. 2.

The number of houses to be erected under the contract  
is 28.

The position at the end of the year was :-

Roof timbers fixed	4
Brickwork to first floor level	4
Brickwork 5'0" above ground floor	6
Brickwork to ground floor	14
	<u>28</u>



During the year 5 demolition orders have been made under Section 11, Housing Act, 1936 for individual unfit houses.

In each case the house was in a dangerous condition and it was imperative that the house should be closed and the tenants removed from the danger.

The total number of dwellinghouses in the district is 3,034. This is made up of 664 Council houses, 2,370 private dwellinghouses.

The collection and disposal of domestic refuse, night soil and salvage was placed under my jurisdiction in February.

Since that date a new refuse vehicle has been ordered and delivered. The services are now operated with two vehicles for domestic refuse and night soil, a hired vehicle is used for the collection of kitchen waste.

There was joint ashbin accommodation at many dwellinghouses in the district. During the year the accommodation has been brought up to separate accommodation, 378 additional ashbins have been provided by the owners.

During the year the Council considered the question of provision and maintenance of ashbins. From 1st April, 1950 the Council will provide and maintain ashbins for the reception of house refuse, the ashbins as renewed will become part of the refuse collection equipment and will be owned by the Council.

The direction for the collection of waste paper was withdrawn on the 4th July. Owing to the collection becoming an uneconomic proposition it was decided to discontinue the service at the end of September.

A charge of 25/- per bin is now made for the collection of waste paper and trade refuse from business premises.

The Food and Drugs (Milk and Dairies) Act, 1944 came into operation on the 1st October, transferring the control of production of milk from the local authorities to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

The Local Authorities are still responsible for the supervision of Heat Treatment and distribution of milk.

#### HOUSING STATISTICS FOR 1949

Number of houses erected during the year :-

By other bodies or persons	4
By local authority	70
Number in course of erection	
under present contract.	28

The housing position at the end of the year was :-

#### Scheme No. 2.

Roof timbers fixed	4
Brickwork to First Floor level	4
Brickwork 5'0" above ground floor	6
Brickwork to ground floor	14





I. Inspection of Dwellinghouses during the year

1a.	Total number of dwellinghouses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	271
1b.	Number of inspections made for the purpose	271
2a.	Number of dwellinghouses (including under sub-heading (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under Housing Regulations 1925-1932	NIL
b.	Number of inspections made for the purpose	NIL
3.	Number of dwellinghouses found to be in such a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation.	5
4.	Number of dwellinghouses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation.	135

II. REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITHOUT THE SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES

Number of defective dwellinghouses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the local Authority or its Officers	122
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III. ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR

a.	Proceedings under Section 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936.	NIL
b.	Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs.	NIL

IV. HOUSING ACT 1936 - PART IV - OVERCROWDING

a.	(i) Number of dwellinghouses overcrowded at the end of the year.	52
	(ii) Number of families dwelling therein.	122
	(iii) Number of persons dwelling therein.	346
b.	Number of cases of overcrowding reported during the year.	NIL
c.	(i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year.	4
	(ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases	34

PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS

The total number of houses inspected during the year was 438. Of this total 167 houses were inspected owing to the occurrence of infectious diseases. The remaining inspections were made on account of general defects, overcrowding etc.

Other inspections made are shown on Table A and nuisances abated in Table B.

There were 87 informal notices issued and 16 statutory notices served.



### WATER SUPPLY

The main supply is provided by Rochdale and Oldham Corporations and is a direct supply to the houses.

The water supply is still not satisfactory the discolouration at times being very bad.

The Health Committee have made representations to the Rochdale Corporation from time to time but there has not been any improvement. The supply is being kept under observation and further efforts made to obtain a satisfactory supply.

There are no stand pipes in the district.

Of the 3034 houses in the district 2846 are supplied from the mains. The houses not receiving mains water are those scattered throughout the district where a water main is not available, and are farms, farm cottages and small hamlets.

During the year a scheme for the provision of mains supply to one farm has been completed.

### RATS AND MICE INFESTATIONS

This problem has received attention during the year 106 visits have been made for rats and mice infestations.

The Council tip and Sewage works are visited periodically and baiting carried out.

A test bait of the sewers was carried out, 23 manholes were baited. I am pleased to report that no bait was taken.

There were no cases of infestation of a serious nature.

### SCAVENGING.

The Sanitary accommodation at the end of the year was

Fresh water closets	2626
Waste Water closets	71
Pail closets	226
Ashbins	2580

20 new W.C.'s have been installed.

243 ashbins have been renewed and 378 additional bins have been provided.

Plans are in course of preparation for a scheme for the conversion of pail closets and the provision of plant to deal with the sewage at one factory.





### REFUSE TIP, COLLECTION AND SALVAGE

All household refuse is collected by two refuse collection vehicles and is disposed of by controlled tipping on the Council tip.

The collection of waste paper was discontinued at the end of September, other salvage work has been continued.

The amount collected was :-

Waste paper	27	14	0
Rags		6	0
Scrap Metal	6	5	0
Kitchen waste	81	7	0

Many of the Kitchen waste bins were very dilapidated and 50 have been renewed.

Kitchen waste is collected and taken to the Rochdale Corporation Cleansing Department for sterilization and manufactured into pig food.

### DRAINAGE

All drainage work carried out has been inspected including drainage on the Council housing estates. 153 visits have been made.

### FACTORIES

There are 48 factories in the district, 45 mechanical and 3 non-mechanical. These are made up as follows :-

#### Mechanical Factories

11 Cotton Spinners	4 Bleaching and Dyeing Works
2 Waste Mills	1 Surgical Cotton Manufacturer
1 Flannel Manufacturer	1 Quarry
1 Paper Tube Manufacturer	4 Joiners.
4 Engineering Works	10 Bakehouses
1 Woodwork Machinists	3 Garages.
1 Laundry	
1 Brickwork	

#### Non-Mechanical Factories

3 Plumbers.

During the year 24 visits were made to factories re sanitary accommodation, canteens and boiler plant.

### FOOD PREPARING PREMISES AND FOOD SHOPS

There are 21 bakehouses and 40 visits have been made to these premises. The general standard of cleanliness is good.

The ovens at these bakehouses are heated by gas, electricity and solid fuel, 9 gas, 2 electricity and 10 solid fuel.



### FOOD SHOPS

There are 15 butchers shops, 12 Fried Fish and Chip shops, 25 Grocery and provisions, 21 confectioners, 14 greengrocery and fish, 12 Ice Cream retailers and 1 Blood Pudding Manufacturer.

98 visits have been made to food preparing premises and food shops. Many shops have provided refrigerators, also many are now retailing frozen foods. A good standard of cleanliness has been maintained.

A Mobile fish and chip shops was in operation in the district for a short period during the year.

### ICE CREAM

There are 12 shops retailing ice cream in the district, one one shop retails loose ice cream, the others sell pre-packed ice cream.

There is one ice cream manufacturer in the district. During the year heat treatment plant has been installed to comply with the Ice Cream (Heat Treatment) regulations. The standard of cleanliness is satisfactory.

### LICENSED PREMISES

6 visits have been made to licensed premises regarding cleanliness and sanitary accommodation.

The premises were clean and satisfactory, facilities for washing glasses adequate. In many premises a detergent is used in the cleansing of glasses.

### MILK

#### DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND MILKSHOPS

The number of milk producers in the district is 58 Milk Distributors, 23; Milkshops, 20.

During the year 130 visits were paid to farms.

One new shippon with standing for 24 cattle has been constructed, one shippon reconstructed and two new dairies built.

The number of licences to produce "Accredited" milk is 4.





SAMPLES TAKEN DURING THE YEAR

	No. Taken	T.B.		Methy Blue		Colif.	
		N.	P.	S.	N.S.	S.	N.S.
Accredited Farms	9	9	-	9	-	9	-

These are samples taken up to the 30th September.

Since the 1st October the taking of samples from Accredited farms is the responsibility of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

	No. Taken	T.B.		Methy Blue		Colif.	
		N.	P.	S.	N.S.	S.	N.S.
Dairy Farms	5	5	-	4	1	2	-

SCHOOLS MILK

All milk supplied to the schools is "Pasteurised" and supplied in 3 pint bottles with straws.

SCHOOL SAMPLES

No. taken	T.B.		Methy Blue		Phosphatase	
	N.	P.	S.	N.S.	S.	N.S.
10	9	-	8	2	10	-

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) (PASTEURISED AND STERILIZED MILK) REGULATIONS 1949

These regulations came into operation on the 1st October.

21 Licenses have been granted to use the designation "Sterilized" and "Pasteurised" Milk.

3 Licenses have been granted for the sale of "Tuberculin Tested" Milk.

FOOD AND DRUGS

During the year the County Sampling Officer took 22 formal and 2 informal samples of milk for quality.

All these samples proved to be genuine.

16 informal samples were taken:-

1 Bournvita	3 Cooking fats
1 Ovaltine	3 custard
1 Sliced Carrots	2 mixed spice
1 Mixed Vegetables	1 ground ginger.
1 Runner Beans	
1 Spaghetti	
1 Drinking Chocolate.	



The undermentioned foodstuffs have been examined and condemned as unfit for human consumption.

16 lb. Brisket  
3 Tins Danish Pork  
1 Tin Ham Loaf  
1 Tin Beans  
9 Tins Pilchards  
7 Tins South African Grapes  
7 Tins Dressed Crab  
4 Tins Peas  
1 Tin Spaghetti  
17 Tins Evaporated Milk  
3 Tins Tomatoes  
1 Tin Sweet Corn  
16 Tins Carrots  
19 Tins Milk  
7 Tins Victoria Plums

#### SHOPS ACTS

The following is a list of shops in the District :-

21 Confectioners	14 Greengrocery & Fish
15 Butchers	1 Gowns
8 Boot and Shoe	11 Hairdressers
2 Chemists	7 Hardware
1 Corn Merchant	8 Newsagents
10 Drapery	1 Paint & Varnish & Wallpaper
2 Electrical goods	2 Second Hand Dealers
12 Fried Fish & Chip	1 Tripe
1 Fancy goods	1 Watch and Clock
25 Grocery & Provisions	6 Sweets and Tobacco
1 Cycle accessories.	

#### LICENSED PREMISES

22 Public Houses  
8 Clubs  
2 Off Licenses

114 visits have been made to shops during the year.

The shops are mainly family businesses except the Co-operative stores and a few multiples.

The provisions of the Shops Acts are being complied with.

#### SMOKE ABATEMENT

The industrial chimneys are kept under observation and every effort is made to prevent the emission of large quantities of smoke.





INFECTION AND DISINFECTION

There were 167 cases of Infectious Diseases notified during the year.

Measles	132
Scarlet Fever	19
Whooping Cough	3
Erysipelas	2
Enteric Fever	1
Pneumonia	3
Tuberculosis	
Pulmonary	5
Non Pulmonary	2

Of the 19 cases of Scarlet Fever 17 were removed to hospital.

30 rooms have been fumigated with formaldehyde.

I wish to express my thanks to the Chairman and members of the Health Committee for their help and consideration in the exercise of my duties as Sanitary Inspector.

I am, Lady and Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,



M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

Sanitary Inspector.



TABLE "A"

Investigations of Infectious Diseases (notificable)	167
No. of houses inspected	438
Re-inspections	456
Inspection of Factories	24
Inspection of Farms	130
Inspection of Bakehouses	40
Inspection of Food preparing premises	43
Inspection of Ice Cream shops	6
Inspection of Fried Fish and Chip Shops	15
Inspection of Clubs	4
Inspection of Licensed premises	6
Visits to schools	10
Visits to tip	57
Visits re Rats and Mice	106
Drainage inspections	153
Offensive Trade Rag sorter	1
Visits re applications for Council houses	69
Visits to shops	144
Visits to Day nursery	1
Visits re ashbin accommodation	270
Miscellaneous visits	105
	<u>2,245</u>

TABLE "B"

NUISANCES ABATED

Roof repairs	10
Door casings repaired	2
Rainwater pipes renewed	2
Eavesgutters repairs	4
Drains relaid	2
Floor boards repaired	4
Wall plaster repaired	3
Defective flues repaired	3
Choked drains released	17
Dampness	4
Defective firerange repaired	3
Defective fireback	1
Removal of rubbish	1
W.C. Pedestal renewed	2
W.C. Seat renewed	2
W.C. Chamber door repaired	1
Choked tipper released	1
Defective stairs repaired	1
Water service repaired	9
Water tap renewed	1
Window repaired	1
Flooded cellar	1
Emission of Cotton waste	1
Overcrowding relieved	4
Ashbins renewed	243
Additional ashbins provided	378
Rat infestations	34
Mice Infestations	2
	<u>737</u>

